

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/965,889
Atty. Docket No. Q66258

REMARKS

Claims 14-17, 19 and 23-25 are all the claims pending in the application and are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wicks et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6, 128,475) in view of Haas (EP 0602840) in view of Sudo et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,987,336) and further in view of newly applied Ohmori (U.S. Patent No. 6,128,480).

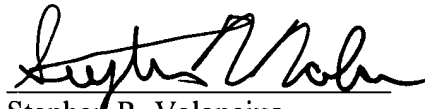
The present application claims priority from JP 332417/1997, which was filed on November 17, 1997. Applicant perfected priority by filing a Certified English Translation of the priority document along with the Response of August 3, 2006. Ohmori was filed on May 19, 1998, after the November 17, 1997 priority date of the present application. Therefore, Ohmori is not prior art against the present application. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 14-17, 19 and 23-25 and pass the application to allowance.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: February 5, 2007